UNION STATION HOMELESS SERVICES

HOUSING + EMPLOYMENT + LIFE SKILLS

NEWS + SPRING + 2014

CONNECT ONLINE:

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Dear Friends,

Joseph is the kind of person who has always prided himself on working hard. Before illness struck, he worked throughout the harsh Chicago winters, performing house inspections and winterizing homes to keep the cold, wet weather out. He's proud of his home inspection degree, which he shows off to anyone who asks, and of the work he used to do. He also holds a bachelor's degree from Roosevelt University in Chicago.

These days, health problems keep him out of the job market and close to home, but maintaining a safe, stable home has been a challenge. Not long ago, Joseph found himself with nowhere to live, checking into emergency shelters and knocking on the door of any public agency that would help him. He's honest about how he ended up in this predicament, citing a dependence on drugs that landed him in trouble with the law.

He knew he had to get his life in order and find a way back to a home of his own.

That's when he came to Union Station Homeless Services, and began repairing his life with the help of our case workers. He lived in our Adult Center for four months, and worked on getting his addiction under control. Our staff helped him secure a housing voucher, counseling, medical insurance, and other services.

"Now I'm living a drug-free life," says Joseph. "Being at Union Station Homeless Services has given me a new outlook on life. They provided a safe zone for me, and now I'm doing constructive things, instead of destructive things."

"Being at Union Station has given me a new outlook on life...Now I'm doing constructive things." — Joseph

In February, all that hard work paid off, and Joseph was handed the keys to his own Pasadena studio apartment. "In this building, I feel safe," he says. "Pasadena cares for the homeless in an astronomical way."

Joseph says he's looking forward to receiving a visit from his daughter, who lives out of state, and his grandchildren, who he hasn't seen in five years. He dreams of getting his California home inspection license, and becoming self-employed so he can work around his health issues.

It is with your help and generosity that we have been able to bring Joseph home. On behalf of all those who depend on Union Station, thank you!

Warmest wishes,

marv

Marv Gross, CEO

To read more success stories, visit http://unionstationhs.org/impact/success/

IN THIS ISSUE

2
- Volunteers Clean Up
- Outdoor Movie Night
- Welcome Our Two Newest Board Members

3
- 'A Place to Call Home' Soirée
- Congratulations to LaViva Primm

4
- Join Our Legacy Society With a Planned Gift
- Thank You to Our Generous Donors!

HELPING MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN REBUILD THEIR LIVES AND END HOMELESSNESS

Volunteers Get Serious about Deep Cleaning

Who needs to do spring cleaning when you have volunteers like ours? On Jan. 20th, in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Service Day, a group of about 55 volunteers from Lifeway Church in Glendale spent the day deep cleaning our Adult Center. They provided a full service breakfast and lunch to our clients, and then proceeded to landscape the courtyard and driveway.

On Feb. 12, volunteers Asia Bennett, Lori Curry, John Cheng, Jim McMenamin, Woody Moore, Erendira Partida, Craig Woods, Sheryl Williams, Catherine Doster and Burt Dragotis put in some serious elbow grease deep-cleaning the kitchen at the Adult Center. They removed everything from the kitchen and pantry and cleaned the refrigerators, then put everything back in perfect order. The kitchen staff said it is now spotless. This was after the volunteers helped serve our clients breakfast that day. While the kitchen was out of service for the cleaning, Pasadena's Dog Haus stepped in to donate and serve a delicious lunch to our clients.

It wasn't glamorous, but it was necessary. These hard-working volunteers deserve our sincerest thanks! And thank you to all the volunteers who help keep Union Station Homeless Services running, from our Adopt-a-Meal groups to our administrative volunteers who answer calls, to our event crews. We couldn't touch so many lives without you.

Interested in volunteering? Visit http://unionstationhs.org/help/volunteer/

Welcome New Board Members Catherine Simms and Rob Levy!

Catherine Simms is a Vice President for the Pasadena region of Wells Fargo Private Bank. Prior to joining Wells Fargo, Catherine was a Vice President and Private Banker at U.S. Trust Company, where she specialized in advising clients on asset and liability management. She has been in the banking industry for nearly 30 years and has extensive experience in residential and commercial real estate, healthcare finance, mortgage banking, and corporate and small business lending. Catherine holds an MBA in Finance from USC. She is currently on the board of Five Acres, Boys and Girls Aid Society, and Pasadena Rotary Foundation. She previously served on the board of Pasadena Rotary Club, and Ketchum Downtown YMCA. She also volunteers at Huntington Memorial Hospital.

Rob Levy is a Vice President, Branch Manager and Sr. Loan Officer at Home Street Bank. Prior to joining Home Street, Rob was Sales Manager and Senior Loan Officer at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, and Sr. Loan Officer at Washington Mutual. He holds a BA from San Diego State University. Rob is on the board of trustees at Crestview Preparatory School, where he serves as Permanent Site Committee Chair. In addition to his work in the banking industry, Rob and his wife Leslie are the owners of the Raymond 1886, a Pasadena restaurant and mixology bar which the LA Times called "a small cocktail oasis."

Calling All Volunteers: You're Invited!

Saturday June 14, 7-10 pm

Email volunteer@unionstationhs.org or call (626) 240-0720 for more info

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A Place to Call Home Soirée — May 10

Honoring Gerry and Russell Ferrante

and Betsey and the late Sid Tyler

Host: John C. Reilly

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*As of April 7, 2014

Congratulations to LaViva Primm, Our Emerging Leader!

In February **LaViva Primm**, the Director of our Sources Career Development program, spent time surrounded by inspiring speakers on the cutting edge of non-profit leadership, including Becky Kanis Margiotta of the 100,000 Homes Campaign, Abdul Rasheed of The Center for Leadership Innovation, Andy Goodman of the Goodman Center, and Maria Kim of the Cara Program.

The talks were part of the " Neighborhood Builders Leadership Program" sponsored by Bank of America.

Bank of America created the program to invest in solving America's most vexing social problems by training the emerging leaders of results-driven, diverse organizations—providing them with cutting-edge professional development and peer consulting opportunities.

At the first of three workshops scheduled for 2014, LaViva joined 60 participants from organizations nationwide in fields such as affordable housing, community and economic development, and workforce development to focus on best practices, finance, goal-making and strategic planning, among other topics.

"The program created an empowering space to learn, network, and practice overcoming challenges and identifying opportunities," says LaViva. "I arrived unaware of the potential that could be sparked in four busy days. I left on fire for our mission and prepared to ignite our team's passion."

Congratulations, LaViva, and thank you, Bank of America, for believing in the work we do, and investing in our leaders!

Learn more about Sources at http://unionstationhs.org/programs/sources/

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REBUILD THEIR LIVES AND END HOMELESSNESS

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"One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade."
- Chinese Proverb

UNION STATION | LEGACY SOCIETY

By making a planned gift, you can give today for a better world tomorrow.

To learn more about Union Station's Legacy Society, visit http://unionstationhs.org/help/donate/planned-giving/

Donor Highlight

We realized with regret that a number of our valued donors were inadvertently omitted from our 2012-13 Annual Report. We remain sincerely and deeply grateful for the generosity and support of the following donors:

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Georgia B. Ridder

The Georgia B. Ridder Foundation was established by Georgia B. Ridder, a long-time resident of Pasadena, who passed away on June 14, 2002, at the age of 87. Mrs. Ridder served on the boards of the Pasadena Art Museum, Pasadena Symphony Association, Pasadena Planned Parenthood Association, and the Oak Tree Racing Association. Mrs. Ridder and her late husband, newspaper publisher B.J. Ridder, were both active contributors to dozens of local charitable organizations and served in many leadership roles. We give our sincerest thanks to them, and to these generous donors.